

Prior to the start of examination of the above referenced applications, please enter the following amendments:

**In the Specification:**

On page 91, please replace the paragraph, which begins on line 29, with the following paragraph:

-- Replacement of residues Arg 118-Lys119-Tyr120-Thr121-Ser122 of FGF-2 (SEQ ID NO: 15) with the human sequence Ala-Gln-Phe-Pro-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 16) from the corresponding loop of the structural analogue IL-1 $\beta$  (115-119) was essentially performed as follows:--

Please enter the Sequence Listing attached as Exhibit A to this Preliminary Amendment into the specification.

**In the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

46. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of introducing a vector into at least one coronary artery is performed coincident with or following infusion of the artery with a vasoactive agent.

55. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said patient is a human.

62. (Amended) The method of claim 58, wherein the conduit delivering blood to the tissue is selected from the group consisting of a coronary artery and a femoral artery.

110. (Amended) A method according to claim 57, wherein the step of introducing a vector into at least one coronary artery is performed coincident with or following infusion of the artery with a vasoactive agent.

119. (Amended) A method according to claim 57, wherein said patient is a human.

152. (Amended) A kit comprising a gene therapy composition according to claim 121.